

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113072

CAP INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, PLO

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE RE U.S. OFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH THE PLO

REF: GENEVA 3814 (NOTAL)

1. SEVERAL RECENT CASES HAVE COME TO DEPT'S ATTENTION OF APPROACHES TO U.S. OFFICIALS ABROAD BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO). IN VIEW OF THIS, WE BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO REMIND ADDRESSEE POSTS OF LONG STANDING U.S. POLICY REGARDING CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S. OFFICIALS AND PERSONS REPRESENTING THE PLO.

2. AS DEPT SPOKESMEN HAVE STATED ON MANY OCCASIONS OVER PAST SEVERAL YEARS, OUR STANDING POLICY IS FOR U.S. OFFICIALS TO UNDERTAKE NO RPT NO DIRECT, SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLO. THIS POLICY
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APPLIES EQUALLY TO DIRECT, SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF THE PLO'S CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS, NOTABLY SUCH FEDAYEEN GROUPINGS AS FATAH, THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PDFLP), THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP), ET AL.

3. OUR OVERALL ATTITUDE TOWARD THE PLO HAS NOT RPT NOT

CHANGED. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO DECLINE TO DEAL

WITH THE PLO AS LONG AS THE PLO DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE
EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL AND AS LONG AS THE PLO DOES NOT ACCEPT
U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. ACCORDINGLY,
U.S. OFFICIALS ABROAD SHOULD AVOID ANY ACTION THAT MIGHT BE
CONSTRUED AS A DEPARTURE FROM OR RELAXATION OF THIS
GENERAL POLICY.

4. CLEARLY, SITUATIONS ARE LIKELY TO ARISE FROM TIME TO
TIME IN WHICH NON-SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS BETWEEN U.S.
OFFICIALS AND PLO REPRESENTATIVES ARE NECESSARY AND,
INDEED, UNAVOIDABLE. (EXAMPLES OF SUCH CONTACTS ARE
THOSE WHICH HAVE OCCURRED AT THE UN ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND
SECURITY MATTERS AFFECTING THE PLO OBSERVER DELEGATION IN
NEW YORK, AS WELL AS THOSE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN BEIRUT IN
1976 IN CONNECTION WITH OUR EFFORTS TO ENSURE THE
SUCCESSFUL EVACUATION OF U.S. AND OTHER FOREIGN NATIONALS
FROM OR THROUGH PLO-CONTROLLED TERRITORY IN LEBANON.)
IN THE EVENT THAT ADDRESSEE POSTS FIND THEMSELVES
CONFRONTED WITH SITUATIONS OF THIS KIND, THEY SHOULD
APPRISE DEPT OF THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVED
AND REQUEST GUIDANCE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM.

5. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT U.S. OFFICIALS ABROAD CANNOT
ENTIRELY AVOID SOCIAL CONTACT ON AN OCCASIONAL, UNPLANNED
BASIS WITH PERSONS WHO TURN OUT TO HAVE SOME OFFICIAL
CONNECTION WITH THE PLO. IN INADVERTENT SITUATIONS OF
THIS KIND, IN WHICH THEIR EFFORTS TO AVOID CASUAL CONTACTS
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WITH SUCH PERSONS WOULD RUN COUNTER TO UNIVERSALLY OBSERVED
SOCIAL AMENITIES, U.S. OFFICIALS SHOULD NOT RPT NOT OVER-
REACT. THEY SHOULD CONDUCT THEMSELVES AS COMMON SENSE
AND COURTESY DICTATE, BEING CAREFUL TO ESCHEW PROLONGED
AND/OR SUBSTANTIVE DISCOURSE WITH PLO REPRESENTATIVES. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: TJCAROLAN:PDW
Enclosure: n/a
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Film Number: D770176-0107
Format: TEL
From: STATE
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770547/aaaaboqe.tel
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Message ID: cb1c6e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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